

HUMAN ETHOLOGY NEWSLETTER

JOAN S. LOCKARD, EDITOR OCTOBER 1982 VOLUME UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON SEATTLE WASHINGTON 98195

Communication, appreciation to Joycelyn Penner who drew the logo. This issue's masthead depicts David Munro's contribution to Mini "Age-Grading and Rites of Passage." (סער

DIRECTORY

do not wish this information printed in the newsletter, the end of the newsletter and send it in. already, perspective field of work, payment would be most welcomed! indicate so on the form. publishing it in the Winter issue. 932) interested in compiling a directory complete with name, please fill out the membership form that is attached to and telephone number (optional) of ISHE members' below statement on Dues) at the same time. You may wish to pay your 1983 dues of research interests, disciplines, etc. If you have not done so If for some reason you please

NOMINATIONS FOR ISHE BOARD

psychology and sociology. behavior, list of related disciplines. theoretical perspectives, and methodological strategies the board composed of people from several disciplines including animal serve staggered two year terms. elected. Executive Board of anthropology, political course, is not an exhaustive IJ order to ISHE is composed of eight elected members insure a variety of viewpoints, Each year four new members

are Michael McGuire, Adams, Gordon Burghardt, Wade Mackey, and Gail Zivin. members whose terms will expire at the end of 1982 are Members of the Executive Board elected for the 1982-1983 term Esther Thelen, Ian Vine, and Ronald Weigel; Robert

receipt of nominations is November 15. Nominations Committee), necessary information will appear in the winter issue of the newsletter. interests limited to should include: Please recruit and nominate members for election to the Executive University of Missouri, Columbia, MI, 65211. Self-nominations are entirely appropriate. Name, to Esther 100 affiliation, degree area, Department of Psychology, words. Send the nominat the nomination 210 McAlester Deadline for and research Nominations

AUGUST IN ATLANTA

HSI Ansiness Meeting

There was a concensus with respect to the following:

- ISHE needs more structure and focus
- 0 5 6 Workshops would facilitate such objectives;
- basis for an independent ISHE meeting as early The contents of Any ISHE member may arrange a workshop; these workshops might serve as a 13 14
- G canjunction demographic regarding behavior-physiology relationships; Weigel) in the next several years; two at UCLA (McGuire and There is the possibility of at least four workshops dealing with life history development data and social behavior (Lockard) HJ LW the ABS meeting (Strayer); one at Montreal strategies and one ב 1983. and 9

- Ņ Future ISHE meeting possibilities:
- 1983 with ABS;
- 1985 with APS; ISHE alone in Montreal;
- 0000 1986 ISHE alone in Germany.
- Let your reactions be known.
- U increase in Dues,

volumes of the newsletter, Volumes 1 and 2 covering the period 1973-1980, may be purchased at \$15.00 for each for libraries. The increase applies to all foreign and \$5.00 for students and unemployed academicians; \$15.00 for \$25.00.) domestic members. (If any member is interested in back Volume 3 will be available at the end of 1983 in January 1983, membership dues will to \$10.00 for employed faculty; but remain

his example, ISHE could afford to help with the cost of workshops on timely topics in human ethology. THAT'S very generously contributed a \$20.00 donation to Society in addition to a \$10.00 subscription to Fred Strayer (University of Duebec at Montreal) A good showing. THE WAY TO GO, FRED! Newsletter for 1983. started a new tradition for ISHE membership dues. If enough others were to follow THAT'S the the

Congress was 54. Total number of ISHE members who attended the 4.

9 The number of papers several ISHE members received attention from local Human Ethology media services. "Recent Literature") presented in the field of thirty-eight and the papers of (see these

HUMAN ETHOLOGY ABSTRACTS

published or unpublished studies to Wade Mackey, Division of Social Sciences, Iowa Wesleyan College, P.O. Box 369, Mt. Pleasant, IA 52641. Wade is collating these for publication in Men and Environmental Systems. your abstracts (150 words, APA format) of recent

FURUM

This issue is devoted to catching up on section will be resumed in the Winter issue. Book Keviews; Forum

LAMARCK REVISITED

the offspring of A strain, approximately half of them were tolerant of B strain grafts. strain (say, A) tolerant of grafts from another strain (B), the way just described. They then mated the "tolerant" makes future donor. For example, in a young laboratory mouse the immune system responsible for graft rejection is still incomplete. It comes to recognize foreign cells in the vicinity as "self." As an adult animal, it will then accept grafts from Steele started their experiment by making male recipient of, say, a skin graft when very young with cells from a method is similar transmitted to the new generation through the germ line." 'acquired' characteristics." Steele and his colleague, Dr. Reg Groczynski, tested immunological tolerancy in two different strains of mice and concluded that "...acquired tolerance was blends the traditional Darwinian view of evolution and a modified the donor from which the injected cells came. form of... by E.G. (Ted) Steele, <u>Sometic Selection</u> and Adaptive Evolution. It indicated that the author put "... forward a hypothesis that ouver, the Province, gave an indepth review of the 1979 book the Larmarckian to the technique of injecting a future belief in the inheritance mice from one Groczynski

gastrointential tract and even in the nervous system. Traditional book that it operates possibly in the liver, the lining of the be of restricted interest. were very different from mutations in reproductive thought emphasized that mutations in antibody-producing cells If such inheritance were confined to the immune system, Wisconsin was awarded a Nobel Prize for his discovery of viruses that can capture genetic material outside themselves. However, ten years ago Howard Temin of However, Steele has suggested in his the University of

article as indicating that if they are confirmed, it would the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. British Nobel laureate Sir Peter Medawar is quoted in the Province Steele and Groczynski's initial results have appeared as well in represent one of the landmarks in the history of biology."

significance for our purpose here was the finding that the new gene was expressed in the offspring and was passed on to the next gene had become a part of the DNA of the animal. study, a gene was created and then injected into the nucleus of a researchers at the University of Pennsylvania, have succeeded in introducing a new functioning gene into biologists at the University of Washington, mother mouse that carried fertilized mouse egg. the November, Biochemical tests on the offspring showed that the 1981 issue of <u>Cell</u> reported that molecular The egg was implanted into a surrogate the fetus to term and reared animals. working with Of particular

MINI COMMUNICATIONS

Age-Grading and Rites of Passage

David Alan Munro Laguna Beach,California

The implicit age-grade assumption that we automatically acquire different characters at different ages fits the ethological prescription very well. An intriguing aspect of agergrading for ethologists is that it is, among other things, theory, and primitative theory at that. It is a theory of what the human being is, but not the kind of theory we are used to: with supporting evidence, derived from a definable range of data, complete with earlier formulations. It is almost the opposite of this. It is theory which, you might say, came first, and thereafter accumulated its own supporting evidence.

In sacred societies of our ancestors, innovation was fromned upon. Each such society had its fixed way of doing things: its own weapons, its own tools, its own shelters and system of government. All of them were very similar, as we see from the artifacts, but they were different enough from tribe to tribe so that one 200-member tribe could outbreed, outbid, outproduce or outfight another — with the result that the slight innovation would slowly become general. Conservatism was thus a kind of virture in this torpid advance; it assured that the winning tribe would keep the device of winning and that the spread of it would eventually become general.

Into this world with the fierce predators in retreat came Darwin's Law of Battle. The 200-member tribe needed to field an army. The conquest/defense side of intertribal competition required it. At some point, some ingenious tribe then invented or perfected "the warrior grade," composed of all the tribe's males inducted into the service," composed age. For most of the males so recruited "glory" was a sufficient reward, but it soon became profitable and effective and in keeping with the rowdiness of the recruits to add loot and captured girls to the inducment. Thus, said William Jame (1910), "Our ancestors bred puganacity into our bone and marrow...and if there were any tribes of other type than this they have left no survivors..." That is to say, the notion of a warrior grade became incumbent upon all tribes; it became 'protected by evolution.'

But more is needed than an effective army to make a tribe an efficient fighting unit. It had to be economically viable. To accomplish this, the next higher age-grade -- men in their thirties -- was officially set up to produce children and do the

hunting. A frequent straight-laced rule denied warrior-grade males the right to marry. Grades below warrior-grade were set up to give obligations and recognition to boys and point them toward warrior-grade status. Grades above included the governing tribal council and, highest of all, the "customary court," as it was known in British-colonial areas.

Needless to say, in these sacred societies, magical beliefs were the rule. Thus it seemed an obvious tribal obligation to invoke higher powers to transform the usual adolescent boy into the daring but responsible soldier upon whom the community depended. The rite of passage was therefore (variously) exacting. For example, a tribe could banish the young males for a month in the wilderness, and when they returned, shun them, give them new names, insist that they are no longer members of their biological families, and therefore make them gain a new identity and a new reputation in the field of battle.

No other age-grade initiation is so severe as this, but then no other group is on the front-line when the tribe is in danger of being wiped out.

Women were never included in the age-grade systems discussed here, a fact field investigators seem unable to explain, though it seems an unequivocal result of the centrality of the warriorgrade and the exclusion of women from battle. However, women were felt to proceed through comparable phases and many tribes had separate graded systems for their women.

Tribal theory, which is our topic of concern, would thus say that human beings "automatically" go through sharp personality changes as they age. True, the shamans claimed that their arcane manipulations <u>caused</u> the personality changes, but this is no more than professional proproganda. Other priests make crops grow, rain fall, etc.

Far more important is a timeless question: to what degree, over 100,000 years of age-grading, did the assigned roles by age and sex become ingrained and fixed? Certainly the primitive initiation into the warrior-grade bears a striking resemblance to "boot-camp," also consciously designed to destroy an old identity, to permit the boy to add "pfc" to his name, and to proclaim himself a man — as well as an expendable commodity. Certainly the assigned characters by age and sex of primitive man are strikingly similar to characters observed today. Why is this so? Why do we not, after attaining an adult height, weight and cranial capacity, ride on an uneventual plateau from 20 to 70?

To take this question piecemeal. We do not know that agergrading has been in existence for 100,000 years. Baxter and Almagor (1978) give an estimate of only 1,000 B.C., as calculated "on linguistic evidence." Upon the evidence of war, we will opt for the 100,000 years. The most recent case for near-continuous war in the effective rise of mankind is made by Richard D. Alexander (1979), citing Bigelow's Dawn Warriors (1969), Keith's

New Theory (1949), and even Edward O. Wilson (1973, 1975). To this, we add age-grading as the effective primitive device of military recruitment/mobilization. It leads us to accept age-grading as sufficiently old to be a factor in the ethological-evolutionary analysis of the human condition.

This enables us to explain the human addiction to rites of passage — marking puberty, marrige, birth, death, high school graduation, etc. Animals, even ceremonial animals, have no such rites. Animals do, however, exhibit the beginnings of intertribal warfare, as Eibl-Eibesfeldt (1979) has shown. This indicates we did not invent intraspecific war; we invented mobilization for it: formalization and recruitment.

Thus the methods of ethology become applicable to the successive role-ascriptions of age-grading. For purposes of expediency of communication, let us combine imprinting, as defined by Hess (1973) and innate learning dispositions, as defined by Lorenz (1966). We will then say that young-male behaviors, at or about 18 years of age, are precipitated by a maturational cycle, that inclines him to learn and exhibit activities called rowdy, aggressive, reckless, violent, vicious, and willful, and that are subject to being channeled toward outside targets or "enemies." In a word, he comes to his "military readiness" developmentally. The Draft and/or warriorgrade induction merely certifies and accompdates changes that have already taken place within himself.

Equally dramatic changes are in the developmental schedules for young women, though far more directly a function of their sex life. The puberty rite, important in all tribes, is a female affair. Elaborate ceremonies are involved in first marriage and first child — all under the care of older women of the tribe. Again, the schedules are a mixture of obligations and privileges. And again, tribal survival has shaped behaviors, for the production of the next generation is certainly as important as defending the frontiers. This indicates that the development of the human female, from her unknown animal forebears, deserves equal or better ethological attention. One could argue that her change in form and behavior has been greater than her male consort's — over a relatively short span of time.

Thus the case for age-grading as a part of ethology rests upon its primal incidence (though unproven), followed by the effect of primal role ascriptions upon inherited behaviors. Unfortunately, we have only an inferential knowledge of these role ascriptions: age-grading was directly attacked as a regressive influence by the colonialists, report Baxter and Almagor (1978); it had previously been forced into recession by the rise of familism, notes Eisenstadt (1971); and it must have suffered a mortal blow when notions of territory were transmuted by the agricultural revolution into the compulsions of property.

Again, in the name of expediency, let us assume that ethology is interested in preprogrammed behavior and age-grading

is a rough guide to that end; then, ethology plus age-grading would predict, for example, that change is in the cards for the male of forty and that the "midlife crisis" which Gail Sheehy found (1976) is not surprising. Ethology plus age-grading might warn girls not to delay marriage and boys to delay it. Ethology plus age-grading might help us avoid assigning people age-inappropriate jobs. Age-grading could be the scaffolding, the framework, for an ethogram of man.

Age-Grading: a Classical Definition

An age-grading system is a life-long series of memberships through which every male in a tribe passes. He will be first recruited with all other boys his age in the lowest grade, and move up to the next grade after a fixed span of years when the next batch of recruits are inducted. Thus his age-mates will be the same individuals throughout life, but their identities will change according to a tribal prescription: from clean-up boy to soldier to worker to administrator to counsellor to retiree.

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BOOK REVIEWS

THE EXPANDING CIRCLE: EIHICS AND SOCIDBIOLOGY. I Clarendon Press, Oxford. 190 pp. (1981)

By Feter Singer

Reviewed by Ian Vine University of Bradford, England

Despite distinctly hostile and dismissive attacks from some quarters, especially those allied to Marxist sociology, philosophers who have taken the trouble to assess sociobiology's claims dispassionately have served it rather well - notably, Michael Ruse (1979) and Mary Midgley (1978). To this list can now be added Peter Singer, an incisive ethical theorist, probably best known for his advocacy of animal liberation (Singer, 1976). In this generally well-informed, lucidly argued, and eminently stimulating book he provides surely the best analysis yet of the complex relationships between facts about human nature and prescriptive ethics.

basic values may be shaped by our genes. One very generally adaptive evolved capacity of our species, the ability to reason, enables us to resist these semi-imperatives, or even to act in presupposes human choice and responsibility, however much, some basic values may be shaped by our genes. One very generally starts from the premise that sociobiology gives us good grounds ways which do not maximize biological fitness. from facts about human nature, society, or the world. evaluative prescriptions can never be simply and solely derived concerning gratitude, fairness, cheating, etc. indeed rooted in the human genotype, as are related dispositions for supposing that self-interest and limited social loyalties are least possible to identify his more central conclusions, and the exposition of kin, reciprocity, and group selection processes, he Although the book itself is short, it is impossible here to justice to the subtlety of much of his argument; but it is at Wilson, to construct an "evolutionary ethic," from Spencer to and finds them all guilty of failing to see that He then surveys Ethics

evaluating alternative moralities. As to its role in the evolution of morality, he supposes that early hominids began with of morality and specifying the ultimate prescriptive standard for sociobiology, their formalization as normative rules; and appeals to custom in potential sanction. "genetically-based disputes would and invaking sees reason as both leading us to construct systems but that cultural processes began to refine collective disapproval of deviancy the rule as an impartial standard and Reasoning about customs would involve giving publicly social practices" explained acceptable encourage became a 70

presenting one's case in an impersonal, disinterested way. Singer sees reasoning as inherently tending towards an impartial standpoint and seeking universalizated generalizations and consistency. In fact, it ultimately subverts established customs; for attempts to refine categories to deal with conflicts between rules, cope with other cultures' alternative customs, etc., push us towards more general principles and away from arbitrary distinctions. Thus, reason is seen as the motor of moral evolution, taking us beyond egoism and narrow in-group moral loyalties as cultural knowledge advances.

group members. Here Singer goes so far as to deny the legitimacy interests, those of close kith and kin, or those of other incompletely impartial, giving equal consideration to the interests what would maximize the satisfaction of whereby we should ideally assess choices of conduct according reason itself. Here he argues for a variant of utilitarianism, other animals. persons concerned. inventions, justification for giving special weight to his or her "speciesist" preference for human interests over those all parties affected. Singer essentially sees moral codes as rational human evolving towards an ideal specified by the nature of Rationally, Thus, such assessments must an actor has no moral preferences of al 1

concern for the welfare of one's own rather than other societies. Essentially, he sees reason as opposing our biologically conditioned natural preferences, and demanding expansion of our advance, in warning us to expect progress to be slow, and in debunking some alternative ethical theories to his own. molded by reason in this direction, societies' denying any part of the central core of sociobiological theory as applied to human beings. Indeed, he acknowledges that all enabling progress "circle of altruism." Only slowly are cultural processes being obligations to close kith and kin, and advocate preferential analyses in philosophical ethics, Singer's does not entail These claims are clearly controversial but, unlike many us to understand biologically based obstacles to this likewise. moral codes presently do appear to recognize special Where he sees sociobiology as useful is so that normative moral codes

of society" (pg. 156). In particular, it is precisely because our natural sympathies are relatively limited, and are most reluctant to admit that "some of the problems of human life have paradoxically in our own private morality we cannot excuse our easily evoked by face-to-face appeals rather than by commitment their roots in human nature rather than in the corrupting effect philosophy has often paid too little attention to the realities biases would often unfairly distort the complex calculations specific and often partial moral rules. involved in to abstract principles, that real societies must largely rely on our biology and social relationships, with Perhaps most interesting is Singer's insistence that ethical public applying the ultimate ethical c morality must always be Otherwise, our natural principle directly. a compromise - but liberals being

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failures of impartiality by blaming them on our genes, or on society, or on the imperfect and never sacrosanct moral rules it upholds.

capacities may only "lengthen the leash on which our genes have read it and to respect such interdisciplinary endeavours. because it suggest some intriguing empirical ideas which may eminently sane attitude to sociobiology. It should also be illuminating to most sociobiologists, not just philosophically for the ethical challenges it poses and often clarifies, but also species. extended candidate for the ideal ethical principle — especially when well-known loyalties, processes within and between societies which reinforce in-group moral evaluation. attention to our cognitive departures from perfect rationality, which surely can operate even at the most concrete levels of weigh its transform our social motives. Singer pays rather too little worth pursuing. Overall, its attractions definitely out-n its faults — and I would urge human ethologists both to Ultimately, I remained udconvinced that while moral progress reason 15 beyond humanity to encompass the interests of selfishness, and so on. And, in any case, there are philosophical inadequacies with his particular That developing our sympathetic and other said, this is a refreshing book because of potentially fully autonomous and can totally He also ignores the complex structural affective other his

Beferences

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 to <u>Animals</u>. Jonathan Cape, London, 1976.

ETHOLOGY: ITS NATURE AND RELATIONS WITH OTHER SCIENCES By Robert A. Hinde

Fontana Paperbacks, 320 pp; 1982

Reviewed by P.A. Russell University of Aberdeen Scotland

There is no particular shortage of overviews of ethology but one from Robert Hinde compels attention. Hinde's aim here has been to capture the essence of the discipline by illustrating and illuminating general issues and themes through relatively indepth consideration of a limited number of specific examples.

The book begins with a section on 'core' ethology, comprising two chapters devoted to each of the 'four whys' of immediate causation, development, function and evolution. This section, drawing on examples from classical ethology, mainly bird behaviour, will be familiar ground to many but provides an admirably clear introduction for newcomers to ethology.

it is initially surprising that the new discipline of sociobiology does not rate a chapter to itself but this is evidently a deliberate ploy reflecting Hinde's dissatisfaction with the proselytizing stance of some sociobiologists. The neurophysiology, Hinde argues that advances in our understanding of the physiological substrate of behaviour are critically dependent on the ethological cornerstone of detailed descriptive takes the opportunity for a gentlemanly riposte to Wilson's (1975) attack on ethology and psychology, arguing that Wilson's rejection of the usefulness of such ethological concepts as reconciliation with ethology. analysis of behaviour in natural or semi-natural settings. difficult to of behaviour to physiology are naive and misleading. dissociating ontogenetic and causal factors and on the reduction aggression and drive is unnecessary and unjustified and showing that, moreover, Wilson's own ideas on the feasibility of subject is aired as part of a chapter on behavioural ecology, disciplines. disciplines. overlapping zones where ethology meets and shades into other variety of other behavioural disciplines, which receive a chapter historical intriguing and fruitful developments are likely to occur at those consideration of The remainder of the book, rather more than half, is devoted Hinde regards sociobiology as an unnecessary new term chapter on comparative psychology is devoted to This reflects Hinde's thesis that not only is it to define and delineate ethology but particularly account of its divergence from and Īη One group of chapters on behavioural endocrinology and the relationships between ethology and chapters deals with biological Given its startling recent rise, subsequent D

non-verbal communication, interpersonal relationships, attachment, mother-infant separation, social organisation and psychopathology to illustrate how it is possible to abstract from conventionally dealt with under this heading is separated into separate chapters illustrating how ethology has contributed to introduction, Hinde confesses to a distrust of the term 'human ethology' on the grounds that it implies an ethology which has detached itself from its essential comparative roots. Material comparative studies should read this section. developmental psychology, anthropology and psychiatry. humans and animals. Any social scientist doubting the value of differences applicability between appraised. study of a range of animal species general principles with the comparative theme, Hinde draws on the examples of in turn been enriched by developments in social psychology, The third section of ethology and the social sciences as well as similarities between the behaviour of which to understanding the human case can Comparative studies thus serve to point up the book is devoted where, to relations then

explicable in terms of natural selection and the concept compatible with environmental constraints but that since there Hinde concludes customs. A key question here is how far social systems and customs are constrained by environmental factors to the extent ecological and evolutionary analyses of human social systems customs. A key question here is how far social systems with suitable circumspection, the necessarily brief treatment can hardly do justice to the potential intricacies and subtleties of this sort of analysis is appropriate but how far it can be taken. inclusive fitness and believes that the question is not whether reproductive strategies, kinship systems and the incest taboo are shows that various features of human social systems such as unrelated to environmental factors. Even more problematic, through what mechanisms are social adaptations achieved? Hinde constraints, detailed differences unrelated to environmental factors. controversial question of the validity and usefulness Although Hinde is not unaware of the numerous problems in this area and here, as elsewhere in the book, frames his conclusions be more than one cultural 'solution' to they can be regarded as adaptations to local conditions. anthropology chapter also addresses the difficult that the broad features of a culture must be differences between cultures may be a given set and of and and 다 οf

say. Moreover, it is surprising that the recent tentative moves in the direction of a "cognitive ethology" (Griffin, 1978) discipline is now largely given over to the study of <u>cognitive</u> <u>processes</u>, about which ethologists have traditionally had little relatively ethological thinking to the development of laboratory studies of psychology, particularly ethological approach are not exposed and also sometimes results disciplines does mean that the limitations and weaknesses of the the <u>fruitful</u> points of contact between ethology and other receive no mention in the book. inkling of a rather On a more general level, Hinde's policy of concentrating on part simple kinds of animal learning. Hinde gives of contemporary experimental psychology, but this the fact that not only do these studies form just a in which he focuses entirely on the contribution of misleading picture of highlighted in the c in the chapter a discipline. 9 experimental This is ם

This carp aside, Hinde's book is undoubtedly the most masterful brief survey of ethology available.

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THE HUMAN ERIMATE. By Richard E. Passingham W.H. Freeman and Co., San Francisco, 390 pp. (1982)

Reviewed by James R. Anderson University of Stirling, Scotland

Three aspects of Passingham's book combine to make it a thoroughly informative and enjoyable account of behavioural primatology and neuropsychology: it is simply well written; it is up to date; and there is a nice comparative slant to it, often taking in examples from non-primates.

consider the issues in terms of the lifestyles of various species, with appropriate names of the lifestyles of various consider with appropriate names of the lifestyles of various considers. questions: Why is the human sense of smell relatively poor? Is there evidence of our hearing being specialized for speech "Culture"), and not in the chapter entitled "Technology," where other types of tool-use in nonhuman primates are introduced and mentioned only in the section on cultural traditions (Chapter adaptive structure clearly related to lifestyle — one such examples to be found in the book.) Another Chimpanzees' use of stones to hammer open nuts is smell but not sight. For example, nonhuman primates and the family and marriage in humans 9: "Family"), and tool-use (Chapter 6: "Technology"). including intelligence (Chapter 5), reproductive systems in developed than that of Old World primates? In this general ...ah fashion, the author goes on to tackle a variety of issues, e.g., in basic knowledge, e.g., How does sensitivity to touch stimuli compare in various primates? - to more theoretical questions points throughout the text, there are suggested topics for further research. Some of these represent (often surpising) gaps interesting or anomalous examples, and to take stock. perception? questions. For example, abilities (Chapter 2: "Se undergraduate, potentially dry and shapeless to, except that issues are set out clearly and unhurriedly. fallowed by consideration of the stone tools of early humans. is well organized, with only a few peculiar placements of topics. eyes of many nocturnal species) turns up in the section With regard to the style of the book, there is little to say Why should colour vision of New World monkeys be less well the tapetum (the light-reflecting membrane found in How does our perceptual world compare with that of are structured from the outset by a few guiding our hearing being specialized for stones to hammer open nuts is briefly "Senses") is introduced by three initial (Even so it serves as an example of an discussion of sensory apparatus and say, the average psychology lifestyles of various particularly (Chapter of many example: At many

findings on tool-use and meat eating in West African chimpanzees synthesis that focuses on new information in brain and behavioural sciences, than ten years old. references (and there are getting on for 1,000 of them) revealed around 25% are five years old or less; over 50% are less The book is up is very welcome. This clearly reflects the rapid growth to date. Examples: implications of the research A quick check through the it is nice to see recent and a modern 다

being given careful consideration, and conclusions reached from the early studies in east Africa being updated in the light of the new material (Chapters 6 and 7). The current controversy surrounding the linguistic abilities of great apes is also dealt with thoroughly, with space given to some (though not all) of the recent criticisms of the language projects by Terrace and his colleagues.

The book contains many comparisons of structural and behavioural traits across species, and this aspect has two major effects. First, it frequently refreshes the reader during passages concentrating on one topic as it relates to primates. Second, the comparisons serve to illustrate different solutions to ecological problems. Although the book is mainly concerned with primates, lions, raccoons, squirrels, sparrows, hyenas, and chapter 10 ("Competition"), for example, territorial behaviour of illustrate the usual pattern of victory to the resident male in male—male encounters, before the difficulties in the concept as it applies to primates (human or othewise) are tackled. This broad comparative approach will clearly increase the general appeal of the book.

There are also many comparisons of adaptations across and within primate species. Consider, for example, brain-behaviour relationships. Increased direct connections between pyramidal fibres and motoneurons across monkeys and apes corresponds well with increased opposibility of thumb and fingers (Chapter 4: "Limbs"). In humans, the foot is represented in the sensory cortex by an area about half the size of that devoted to the hand, whereas in the rhesus monkey, there is equal representation (Chapter 2). Facts of this type, when set comfortably into a framework of the species' ecological niche, prepare one well for later discussions of other topics, e.g., intelligence, tool-use, bipedalism, etc.

observation. However, such omissions are of minor importance will such a book, and it might be expected that diligent students will also the such a book. self-awareness in primates. Elsewhere, the tool-using adminises of great apes are described, but without reference to the curious are available now, and support the initial finding. Such studies may turn out to have implications for our ideas on the extent of self-awareness in primates. Elsewhere, the tool-using abilities tact that tool-use has virtually never been observed in wildprudent in not mentioning it until more data were available; they made of the gorilla's apparent inability to show self-recognition potentially enlightening comparisons seem to have been neglected, although this is perhaps inevitable in a book which packs in so much from diverse areas. For example, mention might have been Passingham's confidence, eventually discover for themselves that, for in a mirror, as assessed by the Gallup dye test. Passingham is aware of the first report of this finding. Perhaps he was being orangutans, should be pointed out that there are some areas where However, such omissions are of minor importance in despite many thousands of observation learning in monkeys remains example, despite hours 다

very difficult to show under controlled conditions, or that in addition to hamadryas and gelada baboons, most chacma and many anubis baboons do not sleep in trees but on cliff ledges.

The Human Primate deals largely with the ways in which research on nonhuman primates contributes to our understanding of human evolution. It is fairly complete in its subject matter, with only few current comparative topics escaping mention (microwear patterns on teeth in relation to diet, and Piagetian-type cognitive tasks are two that come to mind). In conclusion, the book consists of ten chapters and a conclusion, and all of them could comfortably provide a good basis for seminars. Teachers looking for a modern, stimulating textbook covering topics ranging from social behaviour in primates, through comparative neuropsychology, to the role of language in human intellectual functioning are strongly advised to look at this fine book.

M By Herbert Terrace, Knopf (1979)

Reviewed by David Alan Munro Laguna Beach, California

I read Herbert S. Terrace's Nim on vacation and must remark the lack of ethological thinking in the recent rise and fall of "chimpanzee language." Terrace is an unabashed behaviorist, student and disciple of B.F. Skinner, believer in Skinner's Verbeleven a proper specialist in pigeon behavior. Yet, he has also, in Project Nim, made the most thorough — and devastating! — analysis to date of the chimpanzee's accomplishment/limitations in a human language. In a sense, after Nim (1979) the subject is closed, and has gone into history as another false lead, like Clever Hans, the horse. Too vaudeville to last.

Yet, language most certainly did originate with a human ancestor very like a chimpanzee, and the linguistic accomplishments of Nim, Washoe, Sarah and others may well reflect a pristine state of the art. Therefore, the "chimp chapter" in the history of communication science may not be closed, after all. It may have been barely opened.

The proper research question is certainly not how well can a chimpanzee (or gorilla) perform in a human language, but how do they "talk" in their own interchimp (or intergorilla) language. What's Chimpanzee, the language, like? What does it tell us about our Ursprache?

To attack this problem, we would make the linguisticethological working assumption (not made by Terrace) that learning Chimpanzee for a chimpanzee is an imprinting process: specifically that 1) it is controlled by a critical period, 2) it is (near-)instantaneous, 3) it is "by exposure" to the communicative behavior of other chimps, 4) it is learning that is (relatively) irreversible, and 5) what is to be learned is in outline "known in advance."

It is ironic that imprinting in lanugage-learning was an early Chomsky assumption (1957), yet the only attention Terrace pays the great linguist was in the sportive name he gave his animal-subject, Nim Chimpsky.

Terrace, the Gardners and others, have shown that a chimp can "sign," i.e., employ an arbitrary symbol for a concept not present. Nim does it by gesture. We do it by vocalizations. Other species may use smells, or sonar reflections, etc. And, while, no doubt, interchimp communication is largely visual, we know little further about it. Certainly to impose the straightjacket of human language and human syntax upon chimp communication is to thwart its understanding.

Chimpanzees, not unlike the Harlows' rhesus babies and human babies, begin by identifying "mama," and finding a symbol for her Possibly all primates use symbolic smells to begin with. In any case, this first identification within a single-species community leads to the identification and finding of symbols for other conspecifics. Relevant members of other species are similarly identified and symbolized. Call these symbols "names" and the process "signing." It is the beginning of language.

Whatever is learned that is of social import by individuals in a social community must be symbolized to continue to exist. Therefore, the study of Chimpanzee must begin with studying how these animals exchange necessary and/or enjoyable symbols. Goodall reports an on-going resistance to mother-son incest among chimpanzees, for instance, and we must stand in awe of the symboling involved, over years, in the maintenance of this taboo. Terrace informs us that Nim "groomed" his teachers, though he had never seen it done, indicating the innate nature of this symbolloaded chimpanzee activity. The real communication mysteries remain. We are not very close to decoding Chimpanzee, despite the work of the last twenty years.

In fact, decoding Chimpanzee does not seem to be the objective. Terrace talks wistfully of someday asking a chimpanzee what it's like to be a chimpanzee. But this seems an absurd question, one which Terrace himself could not answer if the situation were reversed. More meaningful, as we have indicated, is the study of chimpanzee signs and symbols, as possibly ancestral, for light on how we came by our own.

Chomasky, Noam. Syntactic Structures, Mouton, 195/

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THE MOMAN THAT NEVER EVOLVED. By Sarah Blaffer Hrdy Harvard University Press, Cambridge. 256 pp. (1981)

Reviewed by Clara B. Jones
Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University
Cambridge, MA

selfish maximization of reproductive success where such behavior triggers estrus in potentially receptive females and permits value since old individuals have less to gain than younger correlate positively with age and negatively with reproductive of particular social acts by individuacls within population subbasis for the analysis of the relative genetic costs and benefits other primate groups and offers researchers a powerful predictive vertebrates of the hierarchical system whereby rank is negatively remarkable ability to detect patterns within primate behavioral Hrdy's analysis suggests that infanticide may be a significant determinant of a population's genetic architecture. insemination by the infanticidal male. While pattern has not been established as a barrier infanticide. In this view, infanticide selectively by some males against others' achievement has been her value. This social feature has subsequently been demonstrated in correlated with age, work with Hanuman langurs led to the first identification phenomena that may have broad evolutionary The anthropologist, expected selfish reproduction. For example, and therefore, positively with reproductive "altruistic" behavior is expected Sarah Blaffer Hrdy, "saciobiological" infanticide may be employed Hrdy's most publized While this behavior significance. interpretation of offspring has demonstrated a ţ gene flow,

Not only is Hrdy a skilled naturalist, but she also possesses the rare ability to translate her experiences as a field primatologist into entertaining reading for a general audience. Her highly regarded The Langurs of Abu: Female and Male Strategies of Reproduction stands, in my view, with Wilson's On Human Nature as the most accessible, straightforward and readable popularization of a "genetical" approach to social behavior. It is against this professional background, then, that one anticipates a new book by Hrdy and with regret that one must register serious but not unqualified reservation. Its contents address somewhat unsuccessfully a sorely-neglected question of seminal importance to behavioral scientists; how should (genetically) self-interested females behave?

The Woman That Never Evolved is a difficult book to review because Hrdy includes many fascinating, indeed, chatty, details drawn from many sources but fails to provide relief or contrast. Such breadth however, may enhance circulation of the book for it asserts numerous "beliefs" loosely connected to empirical work that many individuals within and without the academic community want to hear in this historic phase. In this volume, Hrdy reviews non-human primate mating systems, emphasizing, in particular, patterns of "social inequality based on sex." This value orientation derived from "feminist" politics is, by Hrdy's

those interesting but occasional species (48 by my estimation) exhibiting some degree of "female emancipation. " (I have taken strategies; behavioral ecology), employing the same models to analyze human cultural patterns. Instead, she demonstrates a message, Hrdy might have interpreted these data directly in terms review (revealing the overwhelming prevalence among the primates of male dominance and selfishness relative to females in similar politics; religion) rather than ultimate ones. informally as the relative degree of control an individual female conditions) is employed as a counterpoint to a discussion emphasizing "paradigm the latter labor by sex. several over her reproductive career.) Without her political of social and private life reflected in a division of shift" when focusing upon the human a bias that leads her to stress a concern for the term from the bird literature and would define it conventional paradigms derived from evolutionary (e.g., sexual selection; kin selection; stable arguments based upon proximate factors an otherwise straightforward literature species, (e.g., 다

initiative, or administrative and political capabilities" is untenable, if only because, as B.F. Skinner has pointed out to me (personal communication), the sexes will be expected to respond similar environmental conditions), as G.C. Williams, among others, has pointed out. (2) Hrdy fails to address the question of "units of selection," in particular, whether individual identify or discuss). (5) The literature of sociobiology as well by fire from which these [competitive] capacities emerged", differences differently, Hrdy's conclusion societies into phenotypically "egalitarian" patterns will incurserious physical costs for certain individuals who are likely to primates vary with respect to social traits, one must infer that purely logical, not to mention ethological, grounds, if non-human In effect, Hrdy claims that since $\underline{n}\underline{n}\underline{n}\underline{n}\underline{n}\underline{n}\underline{n}\underline{n}\underline{n}$ primate species vary with respect to mating system and female role and since intrasexual competition for food resources may have favored social complexity and egalitarianism, and economists and likely to arise (except in particular regimes that Hrdy does not If Hrdy is correct that (intraspecific) "competition is the trial di+terentially to environmental (including social) stimuli. "trait groups". females might vary with respect to particular behavioral traits, societies. plastic behaviorally with respect to "role." This non sequitur and Hrdy's discussion of human phenotype (reminiscent of Watson) or whether individuals will vary as components or sub-units of humans will vary as well. intrasexual competition for food resources may have favored "assertive" females, <u>human</u> females are therefore inherently female if this sex is more "canalized" than the male sex anthropology suggests a strong negative correlation consideration of evolution in human as well as non-human to address major theoretical concerns that are appropriate have identified strong associations Some of these concerns are the following: between rather (3) If selection has acted on males and females by's conclusion "that there are no important than egalitarian, patterns may be most males Moreover, any attempt to mold human and females 10 between intelligence, (1) On equality systems between then (in

and inefficiency. (6) As Rawls has argued, hierarchical social organization might be favored because the least advantaged individual in an inegalitarian structure may receive relatively greater benefits than the least advantaged individual in an egalitarian society (all other things being equal). (7) Hrdy's claim that folivority favors larger groups than frugivory is inconsistent with (Crookian) ecological theory; this apparently results from her confusion of patterns of food dispersion with food type.

behavior in mammals. However, it is important to keep in mind that male "strategies" are a function of what is best from the male, and not the female, (genetic) point of view. Since evolution proceeds on the basis of asymmetries between (reproductive) strategy that may serve genetic self-interests in some environmental mosaics. possible evolutionary effects of female-female and female-male empirical literature for looking much more closely at the biological theories based on "first principles" rather than the humanistic concern for "equal time" and an "egalitarian" approach evaluate the potential for female behavior to have evolutionary competition equivalent weight in evolutionary "adaptive stories" female competition in structuring populations and to give such and popular literature -- the (hypothetical) role of individuals, with the role of male-male competition. While it is important to l believe that justification exists in the theoretical It is currently fashionable to stress -- in the technical such evaluation by scientists must be constrained "egalitarianism" must be understood as a phenotypic and

It has been said that anthropologists realize and humanize God, and I am genuninely interested in Hrdy's civilized views. Nonetheless, myth cannot substitute for science. It is my opinion that civilized principles can best be served by informing the scientifically uninitiated about the probabilistic and rather scary universe of "first principle" science and its implications for human social patterns. Hrdy's very readable analysis continues a tradition, very strong in the social sciences, whereby metaphor substitutes for evidence and hypothetico-deductive reasoning. In The Woman That Never Evolved, Hrdy's metaphors about human behavior (and, sexual behavior in general) derive from belief, not from evolutionary biology. To her credit, she is explicit about that bias, and her readers, especially students, should be explicitly informed.

RECENT LITERATURE

Readers are invited to send literature that they would like included in RECENT LITERATURE to: Robert M. Adams, Dept. of Psychology, 145 Cammack Bldg., Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, NY 40475.

Books and Book Chapters:

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- Welles, J.F. Self-deception as a social paradigm. (Retitled, Self-deception as a positive feedback mechanism.)
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Wynn, T. Piaget, stone tools, and the evolution of human intelligence.

Zivin, G. On lacking a framework for developmental transformations of communicative elements.

BULLETIN BOARD

Donald C. Johanson, author of the book <u>Lucy</u>, is currently hosting a new television series for PBS called "Nature." Dr. Johanson was a guest lecturer at the IPS conference in Atlanta. His speech, entitled "Recent Fossil Discoveries in East AFrica: a View of Early Hominid Evolution," was well received by the Congress. He is also director of the Institute for the Study of Human Origins in Berkeley, Ca.

ISHE member, Clara Jones expounded on the issue of whether comparative psychology has been cannabalized by the neurosciences and sociobiology. Her article appeared in the December 1981 issue of Comparative Psychology.

Philip H. Gray, another ISHE member, has a recent book review on The Origins & Rise of Ethology: the Science of the Natural Eghaviour, authored by W.H. Thorpe, published in Contemporary Psychology, Vol. 27:5, 1982. His article is entitled "Ethology at the Crossroads."

<u>ICEP Transistions</u>: After considerable debate over the future of <u>The Journal of Comparative and Physiological Psychology</u>, the Ad Hoc Committee on Editorial Policy Issues decided last December to incorporate a much broader spectrum of animal behavior research" by publishing two journals — one in the field of comparative psychology and the other in behavioral neuroscience. "The new journal will depart from its emphasis on multi-experimental laboratory studies to include equal emphasis on field studies or any methodology that yields valid empirical information. Ethological, ecological, and applied sciences will be welcomed along side the traditional developmental and learning studies. Occasional review articles will also be published." The new journal's title will be Comparative Fsychology and Behavior publication in March 1983. Manuscripts should be addressed to: Jerry Hirsch, Editor, Comparative Psychology and Behavior, Psychology Building, 603 East Daniel Street, Champaign, IL 61820-6267.

Newly elected president of APA is Janet Spence, a University of Texas educational psychologist whose recent research has focused on gender and gender differences.

ISHE members nominated for ABS terms beginning in 1983 are: <u>leanne Altmann</u> as Second Fresident-Elect and <u>David E. Miller</u> as Farliamentarian. The ballot and resumes of the candidates will appear in the November ABS Newsletter.

Eggamon Fress. Ltd. of Oxford University has recently established a periodically updated list of zoological journals, textbooks, and reference works to aid in continuing education objectives. Two recent journals are: ZDDLDGICAL SCRIPTA of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences covering taxonomy, phylogeny and biography; and ACTA ZDDLDGICA from the Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters concentrating on functional cytology, histology, and gross morphology. They are registered at Headington Hill Hall, Oxford DX3 OBW; their registration number is 46518/England.

Human Neurobiology is a new international journal focusing on current research on the normal and abnormal human brain and claims to stay up to date with data...correlated in such areas as perception, cognition, memory, emotion, sleep, speech, etc. Volume 1 (which includes four issues) is due for publication November 1st. Chairman of the Editorial Board is Dr. D.H. Ingvar, Dept. of Clinical Neurophysiology, University Hospital, S-22185 Lund, Sweden.

<u>Applied Esycholinguistics</u> edited by Sheldon Rosenberg, Dept. of Fsychology, University of Illinois at Chicago Circle, Chicago, IL 60480 "...encompasses work on both normal and disordered language and communicative development in children and normal and disordered language and communicative function in adults."

asymmetry." Emotion in the Human Face 2nd edition charts "...the developments of the last decade: the Facial Action Coding System and other Laboratory, University of California, San Francisco. understanding of the phylogenetic substrate of human methods † | | and nd of the neurological implications The author is Paul Ekman, Human directly measuring Ekman, facial movement; 락 facial better facial

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Semiotic Society of America, annual meeting. October 21-24, 1982 scheduled at SUNY-Buffalo. The Charles S. Pierce Society will be meeting with them. They publish the proceedings of the conference in a journal. Other meetings scheduled are in 1984 in Bloomington, Indiana where Thomas Sebeok will be the host and is developing a symposium on body decoration (including clothing). They are most interested in meeting with ISHE in the near future.

International <u>Society for Developmental Esychobiology</u>, annual meeting. October 28-31 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. For more details, write to William Smotherman, Dept. of Psychology, Moreland Hall 204, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR 97331.

Society for Neuroscience 12th annual meeting October 31-Nov. 5, 1982 at Minneapolis, MN. Contact Nancy Beang, Executive Secretary, 9650 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20814 for further details.

Joint Meetings - ABS will be meeting with the American Society of Zoologists, Crystacean Society, International Association of Astacology, Society of Systematic Zoology, and American Microscopical Society December 27-30, 1982 at the Galt House, Louisville, Kentucky. To request brochure detailing, housing and registration forms, write to Mary Wiley, American Society of Zoologists, Box 2739, California Lutheran College, Thousand Oaks, CA, 91360.

International Union for Comparative Psychology June 13-14, 1983 is the date for the first organizational meeting of this society to be held at Glendon College, Toronto, Canada. The tentative program includes "Present Status of Comparative Psychology" with international participants. Those interested in attending or joining should contact Ethel Tobach at the American Museum of Natural History, Central Park West at 79 Street, New York, NY 10024.

American <u>Society of Frimatologists</u> August 7-10, 1983 at Michigan State University. Contact Dr. David M. Taub, Frogram Chairman, P.O. Box 557, Yemassee, SC 29945 regarding keynote speakers, invited symposia topics, etc.

Meeting Reminders

Northeast Regional Animal Behavior Society meeting October 29-31, 1982 at Northeastern University, Boston, MA. Patrick Bateson will speak on "Functional Sense in Developmental Complexity" and Stephen Blickman is an invited lecturer. Registration fee: \$30

for general, \$18 for students. Contact Martin Block, N.E. ABS Meeting, Dept. of Fsychology, Northeastern University, Boston, MA 02115 (617-437-3793).

Western Society of Naturalists, 63rd annual meeting. December 27-30, 1982 at California State University at Long Beach. The meeting will be held in conjunction with the Southern California Ocean Studies Consortium. Scheduled for the meeting are four afternoons of Contributed Papers, a reception and a dinner. Presentation of the papers is limited to Society members. The Society is looking for new members; anyone interested in biology is encouraged to join and present a paper at the meeting. To register, send \$5.00 and contact David H. Montgomery, Secretary; Dept. of Biological Sciences, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CA 93407/(805) 546-2446 before November 1st.

Future ABS Annual Meetings are scheduled for : June 19-24, 1983 at Lewisburg, FA; August 13-17, 1984 in Cheney, WA; June 1985 at Raleigh-Durham, NC.

18th International Ethological Conference August 29-September 6, 1983 in Brisbane, Australia. Deadline for the call of papers is "in receipt by" November 15, 1982. Contact by airmail the Conference Secretary, Animal Behaviour Unit, University of Queensland, St. Lucia, ©, 4067 for a registration form and/or send in the abstract directly.

Name Address Phone Please list your field of work and research interests, disciplines, etc. below (e.g., psychologist, socialization):

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Joan S. Lockard, Fh.D. Department of Neurological Surgery (RI-20) University of Washington/Seattle, WA 98195 USA